



Rare Animals of Louisiana



Fat Pocketbook

Potamilus capax

RarityRank: S1/G1

Identification: A rounded, greatly inflated shell, thin to moderately thick, S-shaped hinge line, tan or light brown, rayless, and shiny.

Habitat: Small to large rivers with moderate current, often found in gravel, gravel-sand, and sand substrate.

Food habits:

- Mussels are filter feeders that continuously pump water through their siphons.
- Their diet is composed of the plankton and detritus that they are able to extract during this process.

Threats:

- Loss of habitat as a result of siltation, and impoundments.
- The addition of pollutants to streams and rivers may also contribute to the decline of this species.

Beneficial Management Practices:

- Erosion prevention
- Preserve Streamside Management Zones

U. S. Range: AR, IL, IN, KY, LA, MO, MS, NE, NY

References:

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